

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 13, 16 through 19, and 22 through 26 are pending, with Claims 13 and 19 being independent. Claims 14, 15, 20, and 21 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 13, 17, 19, and 23 have been amended.

Claims 13 through 26 were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103 over US 2002/0163666 A1 (Iwata, et al. '666), US 2002/0163665 A1 (Iwata, et al. '665), and US 7,307,751 B2 (Aritomi). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 13 and 19 variously recite, *inter alia*, (1) providing, *when it is checked* that the designated virtual printer is set to the *redirect printing method*, a second user interface of the virtual printer without performing the conflict process, the second user interface (a) including a setting item for independently setting a representative member printer in the plurality of member printers grouped as the virtual printer and (b) not including a setting item for independently setting other member printers of the plurality of member printers grouped as the virtual printer, and (2) providing, *when it is checked... distributed printing method*, a first user interface as claimed.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the applied documents, even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that such could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 13 and 19.

Applicant also submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such features. Applicant respectfully submits that by means of such features, the

present invention may provide, for example, that when a virtual printer is selected, an output method is checked, and a print property window (e.g., the first and second user interface) is provided according to the result of the check. Of course, the claims are not limited to the foregoing or to the disclosed embodiments.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative, Daniel S. Glueck, at (202) 530-1010 to schedule a personal interview.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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